

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /104 W
-----011492 211622Z /45

P R 211516Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6867
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS ATHENS 6240

3.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, PINT, GR, CY
SUBJECT: FOREIGN RELATIONS: GREEK REACTION TO DENKTASH'S
VAROSHA PROPOSAL

1. A GOG SPOKESMAN, IN RESPONSE TO A NEWSMAN'S QUESTION
JULY 20, LIMITED HIS REPLY TO THE STATEMENT THAT THE DENKTASH
PROPOSAL ON VAROSHA WAS WITHIN THE EXCLUSIVE COMPETENCE OF THE
CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, THE PROPOSAL WAS THE MAIN
STORY IN THE ATHENS PRESS JULY 21 AND NO NEWSPAPER HAILED IT
AS CONSTRUCTIVE.

2. ALL ATHENS PAPERS ON JULY 21 PROMINENTLY COVERED THE
PROPOSAL AND PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S REJECTION OF IT. MOST
PAPERS ALSO SUMMARIZED DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN RESTON'S STATEMENT
WELCOMING THE PROPOSAL AND ALLUDED TO "COLLUSION" BETWEEN ANKARA
AND WASHINGTON IN THIS MATTER, TYING IT TO THE UPCOMING SENATE
VOTE ON THE EMBARGO.

3. INDEPENDENT KATHIMERINI CITED THE TIMING OF THE DEPARTMENT'S
STATEMENT AS CHARACTERISTIC OF THE URGENT INTEREST OF THE
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UNITED STATES. IT PROMINENTLY QUOTED KYPRIANOU'S STATEMENT THAT
SHOULD DENKTASH "PRESENT TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL A PLAN UNDER
WHICH THE CITY WOULD BE LEFT IN OUR GOVERNMENT'S HANDS,
AND SHOULD HE PRESENT A PLAN OF REAL FEDERATION INCLUDING FREE
MOVEMENT, FREE ESTABLISHMENT AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN
ARMIES FROM THE ISLAND, THEN MR. WALDHEIM COULD INVITE THE
GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE TO NEGOTIATE".

4. PRO-GOVERNMENT AKROPOLIS HEADLINED THE STORY "THE PROPOSAL OF THE TURKS FOR FAMAGUSTA IS A TRIP FOR LIFTING THE EMBARGO", AND NOTED THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD REACTED "WITHOUT EVEN WAITING FOR THE SLIGHTEST REACTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS". IT CITED CYPRIOT EMBASSY SOURCES IN WASHINGTON FOR THE VIEW THAT THE AREA OF VAROSHA THAT DENKTASH HAD PROPOSED CEDING WOULD ONLY SUPPORT 5,000 PEOPLE RATHER THAN THE 35,000 HE CLAIMED.

5. LIBERAL OPPOSITION TO VIMA'S STORY, "NEW TURKISH-AMERICAN COLLUSION ON THE EMBARGO," CITED AS INDICATIVE OF THIS "COLLUSION" THE FACT THAT THE DENKTASH PROPOSAL WAS IMMEDIATELY ADOPTED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN. ITS AFTERNOON SISTER PAPER TA NEA,

IN A STORY FILED BY EFSTATHIADIS IN NEW YORK, SAID THAT THE IDEA OF CONCESSIONS ON VAROSHA HAD BEEN GERMINATING IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. IT LINKED THIS WITH SENATOR BYRD'S REMARKS ON THE EMBARGO OF LAST SUNDAY. THE ARTICLE ALSO QUOTED A DEPARTMENT SOURCE AS SAYING THAT SPEAKER O'NEIL WAS NOW RECONSIDERING HIS POSITION OF SUPPORT FOR CONTINUATION OF THE EMBARGO IN THE LIGHT OF THE DENKTASH PROPOSAL.

6. ALL AFTERNOON PAPERS REPORT THE PRESIDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS CONCERNING THE IMPORTANCE OF LIFTING THE EMBARGO. PROMINENCE IS GIVEN, HOWEVER, TO PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S REJECTION OF THE DENKTASH PROPOSAL AND HIS CHARGE THAT IT WAS DICTATED

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BY WASHINGTON.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, VAROSHA, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ATHENS06240
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780300-0540
Format: TEL
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780735/aaaabdls.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4bfb146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1931798
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN RELATIONS: GREEK REACTION TO DENKTASH'S VAROSHA PROPOSAL
TAGS: PEPR, PINT, GR, CY, (DENKTASH, RAOUF)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4bfb146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014